

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

March 1, 2013 | Day 47 of the 105-day legislative session

PugetSoundPartnership

LEADING PUGET SOUND RECOVERY

The Legislative Update is a frequent report distributed throughout the legislative session. Each edition includes an update of legislative activities, as well as a list of specific legislative meetings of interest to the Partnership and our partners. Copies of bills can be found on the Legislature's website at www.leg.wa.gov.

Legislators have been burning the midnight oil working to move bills out of fiscal committees before the March 1 cutoff. All bills that do not advance out of the Appropriations, Ways & Means, and Transportation committees are considered dead, unless deemed "necessary to implement the budget." There are only a few hearings scheduled the week of March 4 because the majority of time and energy will be spent on the floor of the House and Senate. The last day for bills to advance from their house of origin is Wednesday, March 13.

North Olympic Peninsula Watershed coalition comes to Olympia

Thank you to our partners from the North Olympic Peninsula, who set up meetings with their legislators and came to Olympia to emphasize the importance of funding the highest-ranked Puget Sound budget priorities. Legislators love hearing from their constituents – so much so that Sen. Hargrove came out of a Ways & Means hearing to listen to what they had to say.

The North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity is one of 15 local coalitions the Partnership coordinates with to bring together citizens, tribes, cities and counties, government agencies and other partners to protect and restore the most important local habitat issues for Puget Sound. Thanks to Cheryl Baumann and her dedicated team who made their voice heard in Olympia.

State Supreme Court strikes down 'supermajority' vote for raising taxes

The State Supreme Court issued a ruling on Thursday making it easier for the Legislature to raise taxes. In a 6-3 decision, the Court rejected the voter-approved initiative that would have required a two-thirds "supermajority" vote of the Legislature to raise taxes. The Court ruled that the Constitution establishes the rules for how a bill becomes law and the Constitution cannot be changed by a citizen initiative. This means Transportation funding just got a lot easier, as a simple majority of the Legislature can now pass a transportation package. New taxes of some magnitude are also more likely. Although major tax increases in things like sales tax, property tax or B&O taxes would still be a huge political lift — small tax increases and closing tax loopholes are within the realm of possibility.

2013 SESSION AT A GLANCE

Length: 105 days. If necessary, the Governor can call for a 30-day special session. Legislators can call themselves into special session with a two-thirds vote.

Next Cutoff: March 13, Last day to consider bills in house of origin (5 p.m.)

Information:

- For up-to-date legislative information, visit: www.leg.wa.gov
- To watch or listen to a legislative hearing, visit: www.tvw.org
- For both current and previous copies of the Legislative Update, visit: www.psp.wa.gov

Communication and Coordination:

If you are planning to testify on a bill, meet with legislators, or would like assistance with state legislative issues regarding Puget Sound priorities— please contact:

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Supermajority Constitutional Amendment

Republican lawmakers Sen. Benton and Sen. Roach introduced legislation to amend the State Constitution to make permanent the two-thirds majority requirement to raise taxes. Any amendment to the constitution would require a two-thirds vote of both houses. All 25 members of the Senate Majority caucus, which includes two Democrats, are said to be supportive. Eight other votes are still needed. The bill passed out of the Senate Ways & Means Committee on Thursday, and is expected to get a floor vote with the next week.

Legislation Pertinent to Puget Sound

STORMWATER

Transportation Committee Work Session: On Monday, Feb. 25, the Senate Transportation Committee invited the Department of Transportation to talk about their activities to prevent and manage polluted stormwater runoff. The focus of the discussion related to actions necessary to comply with federal and state water quality permit requirements. Topics included infrastructure, monitoring, facility maintenance and funding. Watch the work session on TVW at: http://www.tvw.org/index.php?option=com_tvwplayer&eventID=2013021253

SHELLFISH

Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council: Sen. Hatfield's legislation, [Senate Bill 5603](#), establishing the Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council, received a public hearing in Ways & Means on Wednesday and advanced out of committee before the March 1 cutoff. The legislation would establish the Council in the Governor's Office to serve as a forum for communication on state, local and tribal policies regarding coastal waters issues, such as resource management, fisheries, shellfish aquaculture and ocean energy. The Council would also provide recommendations on a variety of specific coastal management and funding issues. Participation on the Council would include several industry and stakeholder organizations, as well as numerous agencies, including: Ecology, Natural Resources, Fish & Wildlife, Parks, and Commerce.

Greenhouse gas emission: Gov. Inslee's request legislation to develop recommendations to achieve the state's greenhouse gas emissions targets, [Senate Bill 5802](#), received a public hearing in Ways & Means and advanced out of committee before cutoff. The Governor requested this bill to foster a bipartisan conversation on how to address greenhouse gas limits enacted in 2008. So far, the bill has experienced

several changes, including a substitute version from the policy committee and amendments in Ways & Means to remove the emergency clause and reduce funding.

TOXICS

Derelict vessels: Sen. Pearson's legislation, [Substitute Senate Bill 5663](#), regarding derelict and abandoned vessels in state waters, received a public hearing in the Senate Ways & Means committee on Wednesday

and advanced before the cutoff on Friday. The bill continues to receive support for the general purpose and function, with Washington Public Ports and Recreational Boating Association of Washington expressing concerns about the new duties and liabilities on marina owners noted in Section 41. Similar legislation in the House, [House Bill 1245](#), advanced from the House General Government Appropriations Committee before cutoff. The House version narrows the scope of vessel inspections to larger, older vessels. It also allows for scrap and salvage sales.

Model Toxics Control Account (MTCA): Both MTCA reform bills, [Senate Bill 5296](#) sponsored by Sen. Ericksen and [Senate Bill 5201](#) sponsored by Sen. Ranker, received public hearings but did not advance before the Friday cutoff. Both these bills will be part of the broader legislative budgeting process.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Urban economic revitalization: Rep. Appleton's legislation, [House Bill 1648](#), providing for community economic revitalization in incorporated areas, moved out of the Capital Budget Committee. It is now in the Rules Committee, where it must advance to the floor for a vote before March 13. The bill would authorize loans for municipalities to finance public facilities improvements that encourage revitalization of vacant and abandoned properties in incorporated areas. The Partnership, cities, and Puget Sound Regional Council support this legislation.

Upcoming Legislative Hearings

Tuesday, March 5

8 a.m. House Environment; Public Hearing:

- HB 1948 - Concerning non-substantive changes to programs relevant to the Department of Ecology designed to create administrative efficiency.
- HB 1915 - Developing recommendations to achieve the state's greenhouse gas emissions limits.

Friday, March 8

8 a.m. House Capital Budget; Work Session:

Regarding the potential budget impacts of climate change on Washington's forests, wildlife, water resources, and floods.

8 a.m. House Finance; Public Hearing:

SB 5593 - Concerning filing requirements for property tax exemption claims for certain improvements to benefit fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, or water quantity.

Bill	Comp. Bills	Title	Latest Cmte Mtg Info	Status	Original Sponsor
BILLS KEY TO PUGET SOUND					
HB 1052	SB 5610	Sewer systems in urban areas	Jan. 24 Public hearing in the House Committee on Local Government at 8 a.m.	H Local Govt	Angel
HB 1104		Up-front environment planning	Jan. 30 Executive action taken in the House Committee on Public Safety at 1:30 p.m.	H Approps	Fitzgibbon
SHB 1127		Prefire mitigation plans	Feb. 12 Public hearing in the House Committee on Government Operations & Elections at 8 a.m.	H Govt Operation	Klippert
HB 1163		Administrative procedures	Feb. 23 Public hearing and executive action taken in the House Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government at 9 a.m.	H Rules R	Taylor
SHB 1188		Under-producing ag land	Feb. 5 Executive action taken in the House Committee on Judiciary at 10 a.m.	H Rules R	Lytton
HB 1194		Habitat project liability		H Environment	Stanford
HB 1234		Storm water reqs, phase I	Jan. 30 Public hearing in the House Committee on Environment at 1:30 p.m.	H Environment	Pike
HB 1235	SB 5441	Storm water control	Jan. 30 Public hearing in the House Committee on Environment at 1:30 p.m.	H Environment	Pike
HB 1237	SB 5435	Storm water compliance	Feb 23 Public hearing and executive action taken in the House Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government at 9:00 AM.	H Rules R	Pike
SHB 1245		Derelict & abandoned vessels	Feb. 21 Executive action taken in the House Committee on Environment at 10 a.m.	H Approps	Hansen
HB 1275	SB 5788	Wastewater discharge fees	Feb. 5 Executive action taken in the House Committee on Community Development and Housing & Tribal Affairs at 10 a.m.	S Natural Resourc	Hunt
HB 1277		Conservation easements/tribes	Feb. 23 Public hearing and executive action taken in the House Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government at 9 a.m.	H Rules R	Sawyer
SHB 1294	SB 5181	Flame retardants	Feb. 21 Executive action taken in the House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources at 1:30 p.m.	H Apps Gen Govt	Van De Wege
SHB 1350		Growth and water resources	Feb. 23 Public hearing and executive action taken in the House Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government at 9 a.m.	H Rules R	Chandler
SHB 1364	SB 5457	Small rechargeable batteries		H Govt Acct & Ove	Tharinger
HB 1384		Natural resources management	Feb. 21 Executive action taken in the House Committee on Local Government at 8 a.m.	H Rules R	Orcutt
SHB 1401	SB 5399	Growth mgmt act/ penalties	Feb. 19 Public hearing in the House Committee on Environment at 8 a.m.	H Environment	Fitzgibbon
HB 1415	SB 5290	Hydroelectric generation	Feb. 14 Public hearing in the House Committee on Environment at 10 a.m.	H Environment	Haler
HB 1434		Environmental decision making	Feb. 7 Public hearing in the House Committee on Environment at 10 a.m.	H Environment	Pollet
HB 1444		Household mercury lights		H Govt Operation	Hunt

HB 1478	SB 5819	Rule making, suspension of		H Govt Operation	Orcutt
HB 1570	SB 5593	Property tax exemption claims	Feb. 19 Executive action taken in the House Committee on Finance at 6 p.m.	H Rules R	Kretz
HB 1579	SB 5424	Paint stewardship		H Environment	Goodman
SHB 1591	SB 5679	Agency rule review process	Feb. 21 Executive action taken in the House Committee on Government Operations & Elections at 10 a.m.	H Approps	Smith
HB 1599	SB 5623	Marine aquaculture	Feb. 15 Public hearing in the House Committee on Local Government at 1:30 p.m.	H Local Govt	Van De Wege
HB 1600		Small forest landowners		H Ag & Nat Res	Orcutt
SHB 1648		Cnty economic revitalization	Feb. 26 Executive action taken in the House Committee on Capital Budget at 8 a.m.	H Rules R	Appleton
HB 1682		Up-front enviro planning		H Local Govt	Fitzgibbon
SHB 1717		Up-front enviro planning	Feb. 22 Executive action taken in the House Committee on Local Government at 1:30 p.m.	H Rules R	Fitzgibbon
HB 1761		Shellfish aquaculture		H Ag & Nat Res	Seaquist
HB 1794		Shoreline development permits		H Local Govt	Moscoso
HB 1848		School siting	Feb. 21 Public hearing in the House Committee on Local Government at 8 a.m.	H Local Govt	Springer
SHB 1894		Shellfish aquaculture	Feb. 21 Executive action taken in the House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources at 1:30 p.m.	H Approps	Seaquist
HB 1915	SB 5802	Greenhouse gas emissions	March 5 Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Environment at 8 a.m. (Subject to change)	H Environment	Upthegrove
HB 1924		Watershed planning grants	Feb. 25 Public hearing, executive session scheduled, but no action was taken in the House Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government at 1:30 p.m.	H Apps Gen Govt	Tharinger
SB 5054		Habitat and recreation lands	Feb. 28 Scheduled for executive session in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means at 1:30 p.m. (Subject to change)	S Ways & Means	Honeyford
SSB 5057		Land acquired w/public funds	Feb. 7 Executive action taken in the Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Parks at 1:30 p.m.	S Rules 2G	Ericksen
SB 5181	HB 1294	Flame retardants	Feb. 21 Executive session scheduled, but no action was taken in the Senate Committee on Energy, Environment & Telecommunications at 1:30 p.m.	S Energy, Enviro	Nelson
SSB 5201		Hazardous waste site cleanup	Feb. 20 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means at 3:30 p.m.	S Ways & Means	Ranker
SB 5254		Salmon & steelhead spawning		S Natural Resour	Chase
SB 5255		Environment quality & health		S Energy, Enviro	Chase
SB 5276		Designated agricultural land	Feb. 21 Executive action taken in the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Water & Rural Economic Development at 10 a.m.	S Rules 2	Hobbs
SSB 5290	HB 1415	Hydroelectric generation	Feb. 13 Executive action taken in the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment & Telecommunications at 8 a.m.	S 2nd Reading	Delvin
SB 5295		Shoreline mgmt act/ permits		S Energy, Enviro	Ericksen
SSB 5296		Model Toxics Control Act	Feb. 20 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means at 3:30 p.m.	S Ways & Means	Ericksen
SB 5326		Storm water requirements	Feb. 5 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment & Telecommunications at 1:30 p.m.	S Energy, Enviro	Rivers
SB 5348		Chemicals and public health		S Energy, Enviro	Nelson

SB 5424	HB 1579	Paint stewardship	Feb. 27 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means at 2 p.m.	S Ways & Means	Chase
SB 5435	HB 1237	Storm water compliance	Feb. 21 Executive session scheduled, but no action was taken in the Senate Committee on Energy, Environment & Telecommunications at 1:30 p.m.	S Energy, Enviro	Cleveland
SB 5441	HB 1235	Storm water control	Feb. 21 Executive session scheduled, but no action was taken in the Senate Committee on Energy, Environment & Telecommunications at 1:30 p.m.	S Energy, Enviro	Rivers
SB 5457	HB 1364	Small rechargeable batteries	Feb. 21 Executive session scheduled, but no action was taken in the Senate Committee on Energy, Environment & Telecommunications at 1:30 p.m.	S Energy, Enviro	Nelson
SB 5533		Vacant property revitalizing	Feb. 14 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Trade & Economic Development at 8 a.m.	S Trade & Econom	Rolfes
SB 5545		Working waterfront redevelop	Feb. 21 Executive session scheduled, but no action was taken in the Senate Committee on Energy, Environment & Telecommunications at 1:30 p.m.	S Energy, Enviro	Ranker
SB 5547		Ocean acidification	Feb. 21 Executive session scheduled, but no action was taken in the Senate Committee on Energy, Environment & Telecommunications at 1:30 p.m.	S Energy, Enviro	Ranker
SB 5579		Land use decisions		S Govt Ops	Benton
SB 5603		Coastal marine adv. council	Feb. 27 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means at 2 p.m.	S Ways & Means	Hatfield
SB 5610	HB 1052	Sewer systems in urban areas		S Govt Ops	Benton
SB 5623	HB 1599	Marine aquaculture		S Energy, Environ	Hargrove
SB 5658		Mercury-containing lights	Feb. 21 Executive action taken in the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment & Telecommunications at 1:30 p.m.	S Rules 2G	Ericksen
SSB 5663		Derelict & abandoned vessels	Feb. 27 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means at 2 p.m.	S Ways & Means	Pearson
SB 5679	HB 1591	Agency rule review process	Feb. 28 Scheduled for executive session in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means at 1:30 p.m. (Subject to change)	S Ways & Means	Brown
SSB 5702		Aquatic invasive species	Feb. 21 Executive action taken in the Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Parks at 1:30 p.m.	S Rules 2	Honeyford
SB 5788	HB 1275	Wastewater discharge fees		S Energy, Enviro	Nelson
SSB 5802	HB 1915	Greenhouse gas emissions	Feb. 27 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means at 2 p.m.	S Ways & Means	Ranker
SB 5805		Projects/econ devel & trans	Feb. 21 Executive action taken in the Senate Committee on Trade & Economic Development at 8 p.m.	S 2nd Reading	Hobbs
SB 5819	HB 1478	Rule making, suspension of		S Govt Ops	Benton

BUDGET					
HB 1057	SB 5034	Operating budget 2013-2015	Jan. 15 Public hearing in the House Committee on Appropriations at 3:30 p.m.	H Approps	Hunter
HB 1058	SB 5033	Operating sup budget 2013	Jan. 15 Public hearing in the House Committee on Appropriations at 3:30 p.m.	H Approps	Hunter
HB 1088	SB 5036	State gen. obligation bonds	Jan. 28 Public hearing in the House Committee on Capital Budget at 1:30 p.m.	H Cap Budget	Dunshee
HB 1089	SB 5035	Capital budget 2013-2015	Jan. 28 Public hearing in the House Committee on Capital Budget at 1:30 p.m.	H Cap Budget	Dunshee
HB 1864	SB 5024	Trans budget 2011-13/2013-15		H Trans	Clibborn
SB 5024	HB 1864	Trans budget 2011-13/2013-15		S Transportation	King
SB 5033	HB 1058	Operating sup budget 2013		S Ways & Means	Hill
SB 5034	HB 1057	Operating budget 2013-2015		S Ways & Means	Hill
SB 5035	HB 1089	Capital budget 2013-2015		S Ways & Means	Honeyford
SB 5036	HB 1088	State gen. obligation bonds		S Ways & Means	Honeyford